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09/172,556

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SORENSEN ET AL. Examiner: K. Noland
Serial No.: 09/172,556 Group Art Unit: 3651
Filed: OCTOBER 14, 1998 Docket No.: 424.83US11
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR VENDING PRODUCTS

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in reply to the Official Action dated December 4, 2000. An appropriate Petition for Extension of Time and accompanying fee are being submitted herewith, extending the time for response to June 4, 2001.

Please amend the application as follows:

In The Claims

Cancel claim 1, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, including the step of arranging the beverage containers on shelves within the machine in ordered contained rows of said containers, said rows extending generally in a direction from front to back of the machine.

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) A method for vending beverages packaged in sealed containers, comprising:

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